THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI BENI PRASAD VARMA) : (a) Following are the Departmental Telecom Factories under DOT :

1. Telecom Factory, Bombay
2. Telecom Factory, Calcutta
3. Telecom Factory, Kharagpur
4. Telecom Factory, Gopalpur (Calcutta)
5. Telecom Factory, Wright Town (Jabalpur)
6. Telecom Factory, Richhai (Jabalpur)
7. Telecom Factory, Bhilai.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Does not arise in view of reply to part (b).

(d) With the opening up of the Telecom Sector to private sector, there is no requirement for a new Departmental Telecom Factory.

[Translation]

Compensation to Journalists

5567. SHRI TARIQ ANWAR : Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state :

(a) the number of journalists who died unnatural death while performing their duties during each of the last three years;

(b) the norms for providing compensation to such victims;

(c) the amount given as compensation during this period;

(d) whether the Government have any proposal to create any welfare fund for such journalists; and

(e) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM) : (a) to (e) The Workmen's Compensation Act, 1923 provides for payment of compensation in the case of injury by accident arising out of and in the course of employment and resulting in disablement/death. The persons employed in any outdoor work of any newspaper establishment are covered under the Act. The amount of compensation under the Act varies from Rs. 50,000/- to Rs. 2.74 lakh depending upon the wage and age of workman at the time of death/ disablement. As the provisions of the Workmen's Compensation Act are being administered by the State Govts., the information relating to number of unnatural deaths, amount of compensation paid etc. is not available. The ESI Scheme which provides for medical care, dependant benefit etc. has also been extended to newspaper establishments employing 20 or more persons. Journalists employed in establishments employing 20 or more persons are covered for PF, Pension and Deposit Linked Insurance benefits provided under the EPF & MP Act, 1952. As such, there is no proposal to create any welfare fund exclusively for journalists.

Group Dialing Facility

5568. SHRI BHIMRAO VISHNUJI BADADE : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Group dialing facility has been discontinued from Ahamadnagar to Rahuri Parsar for the last six months;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) the time by which it is likely to be restarted ?

THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI BENI PRASAD VARMA) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The stations mentioned at (a) do not qualify for Group Dialling facility under the Group Dialling scheme.

(c) Does not arise in view of (b).

[English]

Construction of Yatri Niwas at Yadagiri Gutta

5569. SHRI B. DHARMA BIKSHAM : Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state :

(a) the progress of Yatri Niwas construction works at "Yadagiri Gutta" in Nalgonda district, Andhra Pradesh alongwith the financial assistance provided by the Union Government; and

(b) the time by which the construction work is likely to be completed ?

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF TOURISM (SHRI SRIKANTA JENA) : (a) and (b) The Central Department of Tourism sanctioned a sum of Rs. 39.84 lakhs for the construction of a Yatrika at Yadagiri Gutta in Andhra Pradesh and released Rs. 15.00 lakhs as first instalment.

The Engineering Division of the Panchayat Raj Department of the Government of Andhra Pradesh is now preparing the estimates for its execution.

The State Government has indicated the completion of the construction by July, 1997.

U.P. Export Corporation Limited

5570. SHRI PRAMOTHES MUKHERJEE : Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Regional Provident Fund Commissioner, Kanpur, Uttar Pradesh has not initiated any action against the UP Export Corporation Limited for its defaults to deposit accumulated account of Provident Fund of employees;